



# Par for the Course

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## 3-way playoff needed for club championship

A round of 74 in a three-way playoff won the 2005 Club Championship for **Ken Whittington**.

The two runners-up both shot 81s. They were three-time champion **Bill Miller** and **Gary Lindsay**.



Twenty four players playing in three flights competed in the opening round Oct. 22. The three-way tie required the 18-hole playoff the following Saturday, Oct. 29. Because of wet conditions, both rounds were

**Whittington** played from the white tees with clean, lift and place rules in effect. Otherwise, USGA rules were used.

Three flight winners were determined Oct. 22 with net scores. **Chris Nittle** won Flight A with a net 71. Miller won the B net title with 67. **Alex Rodriguez** took Flight C honors with a net 75. Flight winners got a free round at the newly opened Laurel Hill Golf Course.

For his championship, Whittington was awarded a trophy and a reserved parking space in the Greendale parking lot, bearing a sign with his name. Miller, who was champ in 2000, 2002 and 2004, was the first to receive the parking spot, which is good for a year. The spot will go to Whittington with the new golf season beginning next March.

Whittington, who carries a 3 handicap, won in only his second tournament. He said he missed the cut earlier this year when he played in the Virginia State Mid-Amateur at the County Club of Petersburg. He said tournaments mean a lot of stress, but that he is eager to play in more now that "I've done well." He added that he "pulled it together" in the Greendale championship.

He had no birdies but 12 pars and an eagle on his 11<sup>th</sup> hole. The playoff started on the back nine because of course commitments. He got a 3 on No. 2, which he called the turning point. That put him 5 strokes ahead.

## Herman wins Seniors Golf, club officers are re-elected

Greendale Seniors Golf Club ended its 2005 season Nov. 2 with the announcements of winners in three flights and the re-election of its officers.

**Jim Herman** took first place in Flight A while the Flight B champion was **Dennis Doyle**. The winner of Flight C was **Tom Hamp**.

Winners were determined for the best average scores of designated championship rounds in Wednesday play from April through October.



**Tom Hamp, Dennis Doyle and Jim Herman**

Officers given extended terms by voice vote are president **Ray Gaffney**, vice-president **Tommy Satterfield**, treasurer **Larry Crocker** and tournament director **Bob Vickers**.

Because members had expressed dissatisfaction, alternate-shot tournaments will no longer be scheduled, president Gaffney announced.

Because no rain days were declared during the season, the treasurer had to pay out prizes each week that totaled \$2,673. Nonetheless, the club finished 2005 with a surplus of \$677.

The year's roster had 157 names but only 80 or 90 played weekly.

**Gary Temple**, Greendale manager, announced that holders of pass cards could now use them seven days a week (only at Greendale), although only after 3 p.m. on Saturdays and Sundays and holidays.

**Repairing your ball marks will keep your greens the way you want to putt them.**

## Women's champ wins 5<sup>th</sup> time

**Sonya Dilworth** repeated as the Greendale Women's Golf Association champion for the fifth year, it was announced as the league ended 24 seasons with a closing luncheon Oct. 27.

Ms. Dilworth's posted an 83. **Cookie Ingraham** took net honors with a 71. **Betty Lester** won the low putts competition with 31.

The most improved player, based on handicap, was Ms. Ingraham while **Sue Dikeman** won Ringers with a 51 stroke improvement during the season. Additional results:

Flight A – **Pat Cecka**, winner; Ms. Cecka also won for longest drive and closest to the pin.

Flight B – **Betty Lester**, winner; **Mae Kiehl**, longest drive; **Rose Greenfield**, closest to the pin.

Flight C – **Cookie Ingraham**, winner, Ms. Ingraham also won longest drive; **Yona Zucker**, closet to the pin.

Flight D – **Bonnie Firestone**, winner.

Ms. Ingraham was elected association president for the 2006 season. Also elected were vice-president Mae Kiehl, secretary **Dutchie Gault**, treasurer **Barbara Lane**, membership chair **BevAnn Brevig**, and recognition chair **Gary Callis**.

Women of all ages and golfing skills are invited to join next season by calling 703-971-6170.

## Special offers winter and spring

Greendale Golf Course begins charging its lower winter rates Dec. 17, which will run until March 17, 2006.

**The winter rates** are \$26 for 18 holes and \$17 for 9. In addition, twilight rates (only good during the winter) are \$12 after 3 p.m.

A number of special events – “Spring Happenings” – are set one day a month, March through June.

**Super Seniors Tournament** for players 70 and older will start at 8 a.m. Monday, April 3. Golfers will play in four divisions: for men 70-75, 76-81 and 81-up, women 70-up. Prizes for low gross scores in each division. A light breakfast and lunch included with \$16 registration fee plus green fee. Registration closes March 25.

**Ice Breaker Scramble** 9 a.m. Saturday, April 8 for players 12 and older. Prizes for low gross, first through third plus closest to pin. \$10 each plus green fee. Reservations by April 1.

**Greendale Open House** 12-4 p.m. Saturday May 13. Free putting lessons. Learn about latest

golf equipment. Half off prime-time green fee from noon to 4 p.m. that day.

**Father's Day Tournament** 9 a.m. Saturday, June 17. Scramble format. Divisions for fathers and children 8-12, 13-17 and with those 18 and older. Prizes in each division and closest to pin. \$10 per person plus green fees. Reservations by June 10.

## Laurel Hill: good test of golf

*By Carl Eifert, Editor*

Fairfax County Park Authority has recently opened its newest course – Laurel Hill Golf Club – and it is a good test of the game.

Laurel Hill's clubhouse is still under construction, but the course is complete and in great shape for being spanking new and coming through a dry, hot summer. It is lush. Greens are fast, fairways give tight lies, bunkers are many and full of soft sand, tee boxes – five for each hole -- are like fine lawns. And the course is long.

From the tips, the black tees, the Bill Love designed course, measures 7,010 yards; 6,730 from the blue, 6,386 from the white, 6,021 from the gold and 5,014 from the red markers. Par is 36-35 71. Those markers, incidentally, are shaped like some guard towers still standing near the abandoned Lorton prison, which can be seen from parts of the back nine.

Rolling landscape requires quite a few tee shots to carry ravines. Besides, a number of fairways call for blind shots to greens.

Golf cars are restricted to concrete cart paths until the grass on the fairways is more mature.

Ratings and slopes are: Black 74.2 139; blue 71.8 134; white 70.2 128; gold 68.9 122, and red 67.6 118.

Good graphics of the individual holes and course layout appear on the scorecard plus a diagram of each green giving three areas for pin possible pin placements.

Laurel Hill has a driving range with both mats and a wide grass teeing area along with target areas. To one side of the range is a chipping green and practice sand bunker. A large, contoured putting green is front of the clubhouse.

Scratch golfers should find Laurel Hill a challenge, while average players will find it to be fair but calling for well-placed shots.

Laurel Hill could turn out to be the premiere track of the Fairfax County operated courses.

Gene Orrico, PGA, is the head golf professional.

***Speeding play, like thinking of your next shot as you approach it, helps everyone.***